

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 041531/TW/br	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/EP2004/051114	International filing date (day/month/year) 15.06.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 18.06.2003	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC			
Applicant B. BRAUN MELSUNGEN AG			

<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>6</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of <u>2</u> sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application
--

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/051114

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____ which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
 international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):
- the international application as originally filed/furnished
 the description:
 pages 1-14 as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- the claims:
 nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished
 nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
03.02.2005 with letter
 nos.* 1-11 received by this Authority on of 28.01.2005
 nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- the drawings:
 sheets 1 as originally filed/furnished
 sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- the description, pages _____
 the claims, nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- the description, pages _____
 the claims, nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/051114

Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

- the entire international application
 claims Nos. 10, 11 for industrial applicability

because:

- the said international application, or the said claims Nos. _____ relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (*specify*):

1. Claims 10 and 11 relate to subject matter which, in the opinion of the Examining Authority, falls under PCT Rule 67.1(iv). Consequently, no opinion is formed on the industrial applicability of the subject matter of these claims (PCT Article 34(4) (a) (i)).

- the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. _____ are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):

- the claims, or said claims Nos. _____ are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.
 no international search report has been established for said claims Nos. 10, 11 re. industrial applicability
 the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing does not comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions in that:
 the written form has not been furnished
 does not comply with the standard
 the computer readable form has not been furnished
 does not comply with the standard
 the tables related to the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing, if in computer readable form only, do not comply with the technical requirements provided for in Annex C-bis of the Administrative Instructions.
 See Supplemental Box for further details.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

Box No. V	International application No. PCT/EP2004/051114
-----------	--

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
-----------	---

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1 - 11	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1 - 11	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1 - 9	YES
	Claims	_____	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

In the PCT Contracting States, there are no uniform criteria for assessing the industrial applicability of Claims 10 and 11 in their present form. Patentability can also depend on the wording of the claims. The EPO, for example, does not recognise the industrial applicability of claims to the use of a compound in a medical treatment; it does, however, allow claims to the first use of a known compound in a medical treatment or to the use of such a compound in the manufacture of a drug for a new medical treatment.

2. This report makes reference to the following documents:

D1: TROTTER A ET AL: "Effects of postnatal estradiol and progesterone replacement in extremely preterm infants." THE JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ENDOCRINOLOGY AND METABOLISM. UNITED STATES, DEC. 1999, Vol. 84, No. 12, December 1999 (1999-12), pages 4531-4535, XP002254227, ISSN: 0021-972X

3. INDEPENDENT CLAIMS 1 and 2

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/051114

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
-----------	---

- 3.1 Document D1 is considered to constitute the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1 and discloses (the references in parentheses are to that document) a diluted lipid emulsion for intravenous administration containing the hormones 17-beta-oestradiol and progesterone as hormonal replacements in preterm infants. The hormones are dissolved in ethanol before being added to the lipid emulsion. The process and preparation according to claims 1 and 2 of the present application differs therefrom in that the hormones are dissolved in the oil phase before the emulsion is produced. The preparation as per claim 2, because of its different production process, is also different from the known preparations produced by known processes. Claims 1 and 2 are therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).
- 3.2 The present invention can therefore be considered to address the problem of devising an alternative process for producing an intravenous oestrogen- and gestagen-containing oil emulsion, and the resultant product. The solution consists in dissolving the hormones in the oil phase before emulsification.
- 3.3 The solution to this problem, as proposed in claims 1 and 2 of the present application, involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) for the following reasons:

Document D1 does not suggest dissolving at least

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/051114

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

one of the hormones in the oil phase. The technical effect of this difference from the prior art is the enhanced bioavailability of the hormones, as shown in table 2 on page 13 of the present application. This surprising effect cannot be found in the prior art.

4. INDEPENDENT CLAIMS 8 and 10

4.1 The same arguments apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to independent claims 8 and 10. The subject matter of claims 8 and 10 therefore involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)).

5. Dependent claims 3-7, 9 and 11 are dependent on claims 1, 2, 8 and 10 and therefore also meet the PCT novelty and inventive step requirements.